**REMARKS** 

Favorable consideration of this Application as presently amended and in light of the

following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 is pending in the present Application. Claims 2-16 have been canceled

without prejudice or disclaimer. The Specification has been amended to include cross

reference to related Applications. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced

via this Amendment.

In view of the foregoing discussion and present amendment, it is respectfully

submitted that this Application is in condition for examination. An early and favorable action

is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 08/03)

Attorney of Record Registration No. 34,648

Scott A. McKeown Registration No. 42,866

I:\USER\YCSTE\DIV 249846 - THIS\DIVAPPL.PRELIMAM.DOC